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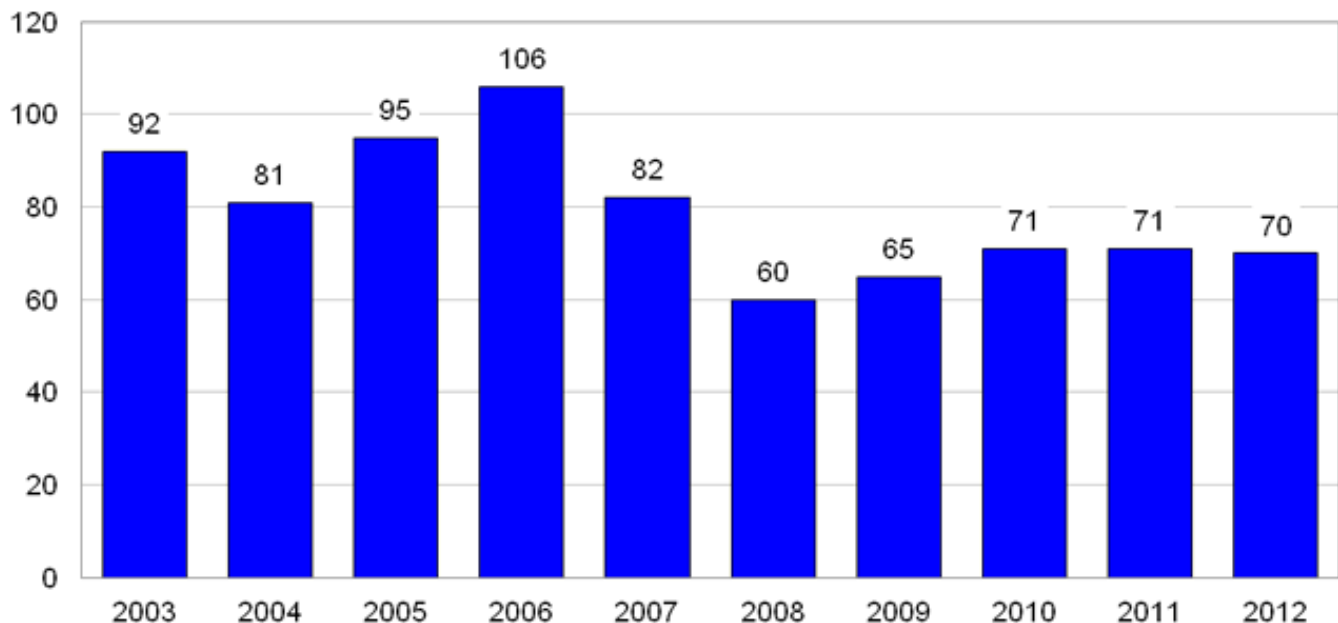
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Workplace Fatalities in Maryland - 2012

Fatal work injuries totaled 70 in 2012 for Maryland, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that while the 2012 count was preliminary, the number of work-related fatalities in Maryland was similar to the number recorded a year ago. Fatal occupational injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 106 in 2006 to a low of 60 in 2008, with little change over the last three years. (See [chart 1.](#))

Nationwide, a preliminary total of 4,383 fatal work injuries were recorded in 2012, down from a revised count of 4,693 fatal work injuries in 2011, according to results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program. Revised 2012 CFOI data will be released in the late Spring of 2014.

Chart 1. Total fatal occupational injuries, Maryland, 2003–2012



Note: Data for 2012 are preliminary.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

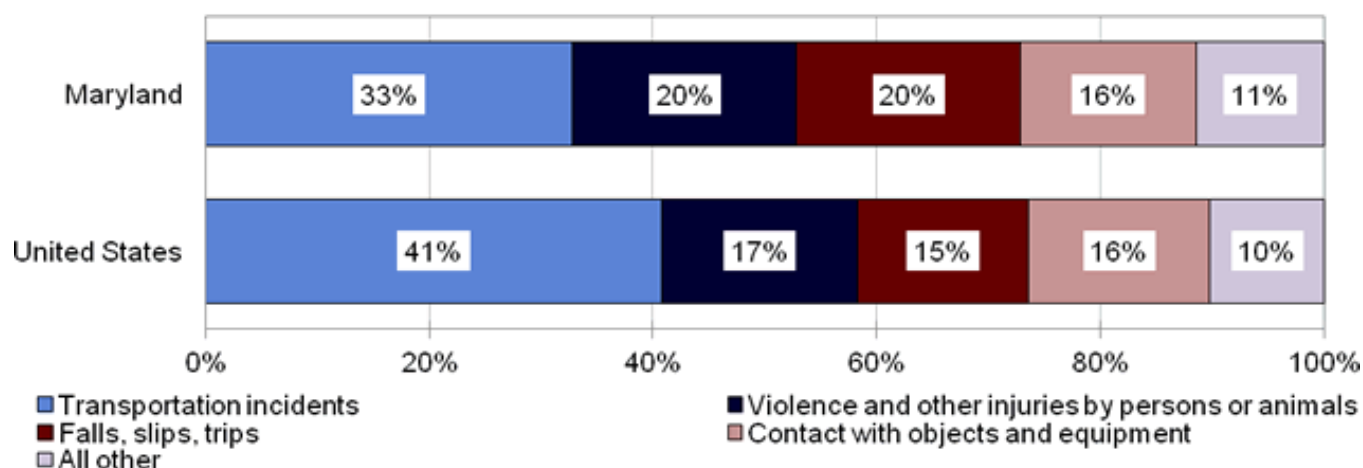
Of the 70 fatal work injuries reported in Maryland in 2012, 23 resulted from transportation incidents,

down from 29 in the prior year. (Note that transportation counts presented in this release are expected to rise when updated 2012 data are released in Spring 2014 because key source documentation detailing specific transportation-related incidents has not yet been received.) Violence and other injuries by persons or animals and falls, slips, or trips were the next most frequent events with 14 worker deaths each. Fatalities from violence and other injuries by persons or animals decreased from 17 in 2011, while fatal falls, slips, or trips increased by 6 over the year. The fourth-largest major fatal event category in the state in 2012 was contact with objects and equipment, accounting for 11 fatalities. Together, these 4 major categories accounted for 89 percent of all workplace deaths in the state. (See [table 1.](#))

Within transportation incidents, 10, or 43 percent of fatal injuries were caused by roadway incidents. In the violence and other injuries by persons or animals category, five deaths were intentional injuries by other persons (homicides) and seven were self-inflicted injuries—self (suicides). All of the worker fatalities caused by falls, slips, or trips were a result of a fall to a lower level. In the contact with objects and equipment category, 10 of the 11 fatalities were caused by being struck by an object or equipment.

In both the United States and Maryland, transportation incidents was the most frequent fatal workplace event in 2012, accounting for 41 percent of all workplace deaths nationwide and 33 percent in the state. (See [chart 2.](#)) Violence and other injuries by persons or animals was the second-most frequent type of event nationally, with 17 percent of work-related fatalities. In Maryland, this event was tied with falls, slips, or trips as the second-most frequent event (20 percent each). Contact with objects or equipment and falls, slips, or trips were the third- and fourth-most frequent events in the nation, representing 16 and 15 percent of the total, respectively. In Maryland, contact with objects or equipment caused 16 percent of worker deaths.

Chart 2. Fatal occupational injuries by selected event, Maryland and the United States, 2012



Note: Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. Data for 2012 are preliminary.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Additional key characteristics in Maryland:

- The construction industry sector had the largest number of fatalities in the state with 15, up from 13 in the previous year. (See [table 2.](#)) Falls to a lower level were responsible for 7 of the 15 fatalities. Specialty trade contractors accounted for over half of the worker deaths in this industry in 2012.
- Transportation and warehousing had the second-highest fatality count with 12, compared to 11 in 2011. Transportation incidents accounted for nine of the 2012 worker deaths in this industry. Within the

sector, 7 of the 12 fatal injuries were in truck transportation.

- Transportation and material moving occupations had the highest number of workplace fatalities in Maryland with 15. (See [table 3](#).) Two-thirds of these fatalities (10) were a result of transportation incidents. Workers in construction and extraction occupations had the next-highest fatality count at 13, followed by building and grounds cleaning and maintenance workers with 10 fatalities.
- Men accounted for 91 percent of the work-related fatalities in the state, similar to their 92-percent share nationally. (See [table 4](#).) Transportation incidents made up 34 percent of fatalities among men in Maryland, while falls to a lower level accounted for 22 percent. The most frequent fatal event for women was violence and other injuries by persons or animals, causing three of the six workplace fatalities for women in Maryland in 2012.
- In Maryland, 53 percent of those who died from a workplace injury were white non-Hispanics, a smaller share than the 68 percent nationwide. However, 26 percent of fatally-injured workers in the state were black or African-American non-Hispanics, while this group accounted for 10 percent of work-related deaths in the nation. Hispanic or Latino workers accounted for 19 percent of workplace fatalities in Maryland and 16 percent in the U.S. as a whole.
- Workers 25-54 years old—the prime working age group—accounted for 51 percent of the state’s work-related fatalities in 2012; nationally, workers in this group accounted for 59 percent of total workplace fatalities. In Maryland, the single age group with the largest number of fatal injuries was 55-64 years old with almost one-quarter of the state’s total fatalities.
- Of the 70 fatally-injured workers in Maryland, 71 percent worked for wages and salaries; the remainder were self-employed. The most frequent fatal event for wage and salary workers was transportation incidents, while for self-employed workers, it was violence and other injuries by persons or animals.
- In 2011, CFOI began identifying if a fatally-injured worker was working as a contractor and recording the industry of both the worker and the contracting firm. A contractor is defined as a worker employed by one firm but working at the behest of another firm that exercises overall responsibility for the operations at the site of the fatal injury. In 2012, Maryland had 10 fatally-injured workers identified as fitting the contractor criteria; all were in the private sector. Of these, three fatalities occurred at the location of contracting firms in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry and two in the construction industry. Falls to a lower level were responsible for 6 of the 10 contractor deaths.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200. Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Technical Note

Background of the program. The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), part of the BLS Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) program, compiles a count of all fatal work injuries occurring in the U.S. during the calendar year. The CFOI program uses diverse state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. This assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

For technical information and definitions for the CFOI program, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS web site at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch9.pdf.

Federal/State agency coverage. The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether the decedent was working in a job covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or other federal or state agencies or was outside the scope of regulatory

coverage. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and those released by other agencies should take into account the different coverage requirements and definitions being used by each agency.

Acknowledgments. BLS thanks the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation for their efforts in collecting accurate, comprehensive, and useful data on fatal work injuries. BLS also appreciates the efforts of all federal, state, local, and private sector entities that submitted source documents used to identify fatal work injuries. Among these agencies are the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; the National Transportation Safety Board; the U.S. Coast Guard; the Mine Safety and Health Administration; the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (Federal Employees' Compensation and Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation divisions); the Federal Railroad Administration; the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; state vital statistics registrars, coroners, and medical examiners; state departments of health, labor and industries, and workers' compensation agencies; state and local police departments; and state farm bureaus.

Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure, Maryland, 2011-2012

Event or exposure ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽²⁾	2012 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Footnotes: (1) Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward. (2) Data for 2011 are revised and final. (p) Data for 2012 are preliminary. Revised and final 2012 data are scheduled to be released in Spring 2014. NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.			

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Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by selected* industry, Maryland, 2011-2012

Industry ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽²⁾	2012 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
<p>Footnotes: (1) Industry data are based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2007. Total may include other industries not shown. (2) Data for 2011 are revised and final. (3) Includes fatal injuries to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry. (p) Data for 2012 are preliminary. Revised and final 2012 data are scheduled to be released in Spring 2014.</p> <p>NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.</p>			

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* For full table detail, see www.bls.gov/ro3/cfoimdttables.htm#industry

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by selected* occupation, Maryland, 2011-2012

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽²⁾	2012 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Footnotes: (1) Occupation data are based on the Standard Occupational Classification system, 2010. Total may include occupations not shown. (2) Data for 2011 are revised and final. (p) Data for 2012 are preliminary. Revised and final 2012 data are scheduled to be released in Spring 2014.			
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* For full table detail, see www.bls.gov/ro3/cfoimdttables.htm#occupation

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics, Maryland, 2011-2012

Worker characteristics	2011 ⁽¹⁾	2012 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
<p>Footnotes: (1) Data for 2011 are revised and final. (2) May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation. (3) Includes self-employed workers, owners of unincorporated businesses and farms, paid and unpaid family workers, and may include some owners of incorporated businesses or members of partnerships. (4) Information may not be available for all age groups. (5) Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude Hispanic and Latino workers. (p) Data for 2012 are preliminary. Revised and final 2012 data are scheduled to be released in Spring 2014.</p> <p>NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.</p>			

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(4) Information may not be available for all age groups.

(5) Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude Hispanic and Latino workers.

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